

MINUTES
OF THE
THIRTY THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
PINE BARREN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH
CONCORD BAPTIST CHURCH,
MONROE COUNTY, ALA.,

SATURDAY, SUNDAY and MONDAY,
SEPT. 16, 17 AND 18, 1882.

OFFICERS:

D. W. RAMSEY, - - - - MODERATOR, - - - - Pine Apple, Ala.
O. J. BURSON, - - - - CLERK, - - - - Buena Vista, Ala.

SELMA, ALA.:

JOHN L. WEST & CO., PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS.
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MINUTES.

THE PINE BARREN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION held its thirty-third annual session with Concord church, Buena Vista, Monroe county, Alabama, commencing on Saturday, September 16th, 1882. According to appointment, Bro. W. G. Curry preached the annual sermon from Phil. 2 : 15, 16.

After an intermission of one hour, the Moderator called the Association to order. Devotional exercises were conducted by Bro. L. W. Duke.

In the absence of the Clerk, O. J. Burson was chosen to act as Clerk, pro tem.

Letters from the churches were read, and the names of delegates enrolled, viz :

FIRST DISTRICT.

New Providence—R. A. Newell and T. S. Packer.
Rock West—George S. Gullette and John E. Gullette, Jr.
Bethany—Not represented.
Camden—P. Armstrong and John Purifoy.
Enon—A. P. Majors, E. Q. Bailey and J. F. Burson.
Bell's Landing—J. T. Bayles.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Ackerville—W. A. J. Albritton.
Bethsaida—W. G. Curry, J. W. Purifoy and G. W. Albritton.
Bear Creek—D. P. Owen, B. F. Watts, J. D. Melton and D. P. Watts.
Allenton—J. A. Monk, J. W. Griffith and J. B. McWilliams.
Mt. Pleasant—J. B. Coleman.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Gilgal—Not represented.
Fellowship—C. J. Knight.
Friendship—J. R. Hawthorne, D. W. Ramsey, J. F. Fore, W. M. Watts, Frank Calloway and H. E. Carter.
Liberty—Adam Wiggins and W. H. Creamer.
Manningham—Not represented.
Ebenezer—A. T. Sims, S. Moore, A. A. Sims and B. T. Ansley.
Monterey—T. A. Knight and J. F. Bruner.
Shackleville—G. W. Sancer.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Indian Springs—P. C. Byrd and J. E. Fore.
Pineville—I. B. Burson and William Cater.
New Hope—G. W. Burns and W. T. Reeves.
Concord—J. A. Riley, Samuel Middleton, M. V. Middleton and J. J. Finklea.
Flat Creek—William Graham and B. J. Skinner.
Corinth—Not represented.

Centennial—W. A. Whisenant.

The Association then proceeded to elect officers for the session, with the following result :

D. W. Ramsey, Moderator, Pine Apple, Ala.

O. J. Burson, Clerk, Buena Vista, Ala.

J. W. Purifoy, Treasurer, Snow Hill, Ala.

The following committee on religious exercises during the session, was appointed :

Pastor and deacons of Concord church, with J. R. Hawthorne and E. I. Bailey.

The following names of correspondents from other bodies were enrolled :

Bethlehem Association—L. W. Duke, W. A. Locke and L. G. Skipper.

Bigbee Association—H. H. Sturgis.

Bethel Association—George M. Parker.

Evangelist and Colporteur of State Mission Board—J. G. McCaskey.

Colporteur of S. M. Board for Zion Association—J. F. Bruner.

Colporteur of Pine Barren Association—P. Armstrong.

The following committees were then appointed to report during the session :

Finance—J. E. Gullette, J. F. Burson and J. B. McWilliams.

Queries and Requests—H. E. Carter, W. A. J. Albritton and B. T. Ansley.

Nominations—J. J. Finklea, Adam Wiggins and G. W. Albritton.

State of Religion and Digest of Letters—T. A. Knight, R. A. Newell and J. B. Coleman.

The report on Ministerial Education was then called for. The chairman of the committee being absent, the report was deferred.

The Committee on Denominational Education not being ready to report, were granted further time, and the names of A. T. Sims and I. B. Burson, were added to the committee.

The report on Sabbath Schools not being ready, was deferred and S. Moore added to the committee.

The committee on Missions not being prepared to report, were granted further time, and the name of A. A. Sims was added.

On motion of W. G. Curry, the following committee was appointed to prorate among the churches composing this body, the amount asked of this Association by the State Mission Board, for the various enterprises fostered by our denomination : J. W. Purifoy, C. J. Knight, S. Moore, E. I. Bailey and G. W. Burns.

Bro. B. J. Skinner made an impressive talk in reference to Flat Creek church—mentioning the tenacity and love with which the few faithful ones cling to the organization—and it is still recognized as a member of this body.

The Treasurer's report was read, received, and referred to the Finance Committee.

On motion of A. T. Sims, the following committee was appointed to report during the session on Temperance : A. T. Sims, J. R. Hawthorne, P. Armstrong, L. R. Riley and William Graham.

The Committee on Religious Services during the session, made the following report :

To-night, preaching by A. T. Sims. To-morrow at 11 o'clock, preaching by L. G. Skipper. At 2 o'clock, preaching by George M. Parker. To-morrow night, preaching by C. P. Fountain. At 9 o'clock to-morrow morning, a Sunday School mass meeting, to be addressed by D. W. Ramsey and G. W. Albritton.

The following brethren were appointed as delegates to the next State Convention :

C. J. Knight, J. W. Purifoy, D. W. Ramsey, W. G. Curry, B. J. Skinner, J. F. Bruner, A. T. Sims, J. B. McWilliams, A. A. Sims, G. W. Albritton, J. R. Hawthorne, S. Moore, T. A. Knight, P. Armstrong, Frank Cook, D. Palmer, O. J. Burson, C. P. Fountain, D. D. Jones, O. H. Spencer and P. J. Cree.

Bethlehem Association—B. J. Skinner, A. A. Sims, H. E. Carter, A. T. Sims, J. J. Finklea, A. Lacy and G. W. Riley.

Alabama Association—B. T. Ansley.

Elim Association—A. T. Sims and N. Wright.

Zion Association—J. F. Bruner and A. T. Sims.

Adjourned until Monday morning 8 o'clock. Prayer by Bro. McCaskey.

SABBATH.

The several appointments were filled according to the adopted programme. Bro. McCaskey also preached in the School House at 11 o'clock. At the close of the sermon of that hour, a collection was taken up for the Foreign Missions. Received, \$20.65

MONDAY.

Called to order at 8 o'clock. The Association engaged in prayer, led by Bro. Bayles.

Minutes were read, roll corrected, and adopted.

Report on Sabbath Schools was read and adopted without discussion.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your committee to report on Sabbath Schools, respectfully submit the following : That Sabbath Schools are a necessity in our land, cannot be doubted by any one who feels an interest in the moral improvement of his country.

It is strange, after so much has been spoken and written on the subject, that there should still exist so little interest in many of our churches. The cause of this indifference is evidently due to the fact that parents do not fully appreciate the object, as well as the advantages, of Sabbath Schools.

In this eventful age, when political strife is wielding such undue influence upon the public mind, when skepticism and infidelity are rife in the land, what a necessity there is for educating and cultivating the youth of our country morally and religiously !

Could we but lift the veil of futurity, and, looking down the vista of time, view the aspect of coming events, perhaps we would be aroused to the importance of Sabbath School work.

If we wish to have a peaceful and prosperous country; if we wish to avert the fiendish influences that are now rife in the land; if we would arrest the progress of intemperance, let us implant moral and religious principles in the hearts of our children.

Then, we would ask, is there any better place for performing this import-

ant work than in the Sabbath School? Let us as Christian people, give this subject our earnest and prayerful attention, and may God Almighty aid us in our efforts to advance his cause.

G. W. BURNS, Chairman.

Report on Denominational Education was read, and, after discussion by Breth. Skinner and Skipper, was adopted.

REPORT ON DENOMINATIONAL EDUCATION.

The matter of denominational education is so vitally important and so essential to the future prosperity and success of our cherished principles, that we could not urge its claims upon this Association too strongly. It is with special pride that we point to our denominational institutions of learning, and challenge comparison with any others in the land. Having these institutions, and they possessing, as they do, all the facilities for the training of our children, it should be our first care, as Baptists, to see that our children are educated under our own denominational influences.

We recommend to the favorable consideration of the Association the Howard College and Judson Female Institute at Marion, and also the Central Female College at Tuskalooosa. These are Baptist institutions, and are in every way worthy of your patronage and support.

W. G. CURRY, Chairman.

Report on Ministerial Education was read. After remarks by Breth. Bayles, Gullette and Hawthore, the report was adopted.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your committee on Ministerial Education, submit the following report: The demand for educated ministers in the denomination is constantly increasing. The masses of people are getting to be better informed and better educated every year, and they need ministers who command their respect and confidence, not only as pious and godly men, but also as religious teachers who are capable of presenting the truth in its clearest light, and of defending it against the desperate attacks made against it in the name of science.

Heretofore the demand for a higher education in the ministry has not been so essential to the progress of our denomination in numbers and influence as it is to-day. A comparatively few well educated men to occupy the town and city pulpits, were all that were actually needed. But the times have changed and now the country pulpits are beginning to demand the services of men of a higher order of education. Our ministers who were denied the advantages of education, have done a grand and glorious work—a work which they alone could do. All glory and honor to them for performing their mission so nobly and so well. And there is still a work for them to do, but their sphere is becoming more narrowly circumscribed every year, and it is already quite small compared with what it formerly was. As the demand for educated ministers increases, the demand for uneducated ministers must decrease. Our duty in this matter is plain enough. We ought to accept the situation, and put forth earnest efforts to supply the demand for educated ministers by giving our young men, who have the requisite qualifications and the desire to enter the ministry, ample opportunities of securing the advantages of a first class education. We should encourage them to take, not only a complete college course, but also a full course in our Theological Seminary at Louisville.

Your committee is very glad to note the fact that this Association is, and has been, fully awake to the importance of ministerial education; and that it has been very liberal in its contributions to that worthy object. We think the present method of *lending* money to deserving young men, who are preparing for the ministry, is wise and good. There is now on hand a small amount of funds, owing to the fact that the Association had no beneficiary last year. We

suggest that the amount on hand be held and increased until there is an application for assistance by a worthy young man.

C. P. FOUNTAIN, }
A. P. MAJORS, } Committee.
B. J. SKINNER, }

The Committee on Nominations made the following report :

C. P. Fountain, to preach the next annual sermon ; A. T. Sims, alternate. And suggested that the Association retain the same Board of Managers, viz : D. W. Ramsey, R. C. Jones, D. Palmer and C. J. Knight, with I. B. Burson in place of R. A. Armstrong.

Report on State of Religion and Digest of Letters was adopted without discussion.

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION AND DIGEST OF LETTERS.

Your committee deem it proper to say in the first place, that the churches are not definite enough in their letters to this body to justify a perfect report. We respectfully suggest and urge that churches adopt some "form" of letter to the Association in order that there be less confusion in making these reports.

On examination of the letters from the different churches, we report the following summary : Baptized, 71 ; received by letter, 36 ; restored, 7 ; received by voucher, 3 ; awaiting baptism, 4 ; dismissed by letter, 48 ; excluded, 37 ; dead, 15 ; total membership, 1296. Only two prayer meetings reported, and seven churches report Sabbath schools. Number of S. S. scholars, 321 ; S. S. teachers, 45.

We find the churches at Manningham, Corinth, Gilgal and Bethel, not represented. Some of the churches report on literature ; others make no report.

Respectfully submitted,

T. A. KNIGHT, Chairman.

Report on Missions was read. Bro. Fountain spoke earnestly, and at length, upon this subject. The Association then sang, "Nearer, my God, to Thee." After further remarks by Brethren Skipper, Curry and others, the report was adopted.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Missions, in *Latin missio*, from the verb *mitto*, which means to send, is a subject that has given employment to some of the most intelligent minds the world has produced, and your committee feel inadequate to the task of doing anything like justice to so important a subject in so short a space as is allowed them in this report. Yet there can always be something said upon the subject that will interest the true Christian.

We believe that the command to preach the Gospel to every creature, is just as imperative now as when it was uttered by our Savior. Never in our history has there been so great a demand for prompt and energetic effort on the part of Christians, to engage in the grand work to counteract the stream of iniquity that is flowing through our land, as now. Emigration from almost every inhabitable country is flocking into ours. The religious welfare of these immigrants must be looked after, and it behooves us, as Missionary Baptists, to be foremost in sending the Gospel to them.

Missions are divided into three heads—Home, State and Foreign. Under the head of Home Missions, it can be said that, in order to meet the wishes of the denomination and to supply the necessities of the vast field that is before us, its operations must be greatly enlarged. Even at our very doors a great duty is to be performed, for some destitution could truthfully be said to exist even in our Association.

In Florida, Arkansas, Texas and Louisiana, a great destitution prevails. In the large city of New Orleans we have only two organized Baptist churches, and they are hardly self-sustaining. This goes to prove that the work of the Missionary has not yet been completed.

From the statements made by our State Mission Board for the past four years, a grand work has been accomplished for Christ and for our denomination through its instrumentality. It has proved itself worthy of the confidence and support of our denomination.

Under the head of Foreign Missions, so much could be said that it would take an almost endless volume to contain it. Suffice it to say that we have not done so much as we could have done, to enlighten the poor heathen in the knowledge of religion.

We find in our Treasurer's report on Finance, for Missions, the following summary :

Foreign, \$97.35 ; Home, \$50.85 ; State Missions, \$230.40 ; total, \$378.60 ; and we have a membership of fourteen hundred, which is less than thirty cents per head. Of this we should not feel very proud. If we do not come nearer up to the full measure of our duty in sending the gospel abroad, we are certainly devoid of the spirit of him whom we are trying to imitate. Alabama Baptists need to be aroused to some of the responsibilities that rest upon them. May our Master prosper our work more abundantly the present year than in the past, is the prayer of your humble committeemen.

OLIVER H. SPENCER, Chairman.

The Committee on Temperance presented their report. After a warm, spirited, able and lengthy discussion, the report was adopted by 21 to 11.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The Committee on Temperance present the following as their report : With much delight we anticipate a heart cheering event in the near future. That event is the removal from our land by the strong arm of the law of the greatest evil known to the world—we mean the evil growing out of the use of intoxicating liquors. For the last forty or fifty years moral suasion has been vigorously applied, and has accomplished much good. By it many drunkards have been reformed, and many others have been prevented from becoming drunkards. But the greatest amount of good that has grown out of Temperance organization has been the education of the public mind in favor of legal prohibition. Intemperance in all its hideous forms, has been so repeatedly held up before the gaze of the people that the masses have resolved that they will no longer tolerate it, and that the great evil must and shall be abolished by legislative enactments. Nearly all the women, and a large majority of the men, are now ripe for legal prohibition ; and, as we believe that State prohibition will be considered in the next meeting of the Legislature, we recommend that this Association, as a body, adopt the following resolutions :

Resolved, 1st, That it is the desire of the Pine Barren Baptist Association that the Legislature of Alabama, at its next general assembly, shall enact a law that will prohibit the manufacture, introduction, or sale of intoxicating liquors within the limits of the State of Alabama.

Resolved, 2nd, That we earnestly request the pastors of all the churches of this Association to do whatever is in their power to influence the entire membership to do whatever they can to accomplish the object contemplated in this report. We further request that each and every one of the above named pastors preach a prohibition sermon in their churches at their earliest opportunity.

A. T. SIMS, Chairman.

Took up a collection for Bro. J. T. Bayles. Received, \$26.35.

The Association joined in singing, "Am I a Soldier of the Cross," and adjourned until 2 o'clock.

Reassembled pursuant to adjournment. The following committees were appointed to report next session :

Missions—A. T. Sims, S. Moore and J. F. Bruner.

Sabbath Schools—John Purifoy, S. C. Cook and T. S. Parker.

Ministeeial Education—I. B. Burson, M. V. Middleton and J. E. Fore.

Denominational Education—G. W. Albritton, C. J. Knight and B. F. Watts.

The report on Apportionment was adopted unanimously.

REPORT ON APPORTIONMENT.

The committee appointed to apportion the different churches composing Pine Barren Association, the amount asked for by the State Mission Board, submit the following report :

Bethsaida.....	\$100 00	Friendship.....	\$100 00
Allenton.....	40 00	Concord.....	35 00
Pineville.....	40 00	Rock West.....	30 00
Ebenezer.....	25 00	Fellowship... ..	25 00
Bear Creek.....	20 00	Ackerville.....	20 00
Enon.....	20 00	Monterey.....	20 00
Mt. Pleasant.....	15 00	New Providence.....	10 00
Indian Springs.....	12 50	Centennial.....	5 00
Corinth.....	5 00	Liberty.....	5 00
Shackleville.....	5 00	Bethel.....	10 00
New Hope.....	10 00	Flat Creek.....	5 00
Camden.....	25 00		
			\$265 00
	\$317 50	Total.....	\$582 50

We suggest that churches, when forwarding these amounts, will specify the objects for which they are intended, and the amount for each.

J. W. PURIFOY, Chairman.

The Committee on Queries and Requests, report : Nothing to be considered.

On motion, the Association shall hold its next meeting with Rock West church.

Report of Committee on Finance was adopted.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

CHURCHES.	Minutes.	Ministerial Education.		State Missions.		Home Missions.		Foreign Missions.		Missions, subject to State Board.		Colportage.		Indigent Ministers.		Opelika Church.		Evangelizati'n Col'd People.	
		Cash	V'ts	Cash	V'ts	Cash	V'ts	Cash	V'ts	Cash	V'ts	Cash	V'ts	Cash	V'ts	Cash	V'ts	Cash	V'ts
Rock West.....	\$ 2 50			10 00															
Camden.....	2 00			3 60	21 40														
Enon.....	2 00					5 50													
Ackerville.....	1 50			7 75		3 90		5 50											
Bethsaida.....	4 00				43 25		30 00		41 55										5 00
Bear Creek.....	1 50									10 00									
Allenton.....	2 00	5 00	20 00			11 50		5 00											
Mt. Pleasant.....	1 65					2 00		2 00											
Fellowship.....	2 00	5 00		10 00		5 00			5 00										
Friendship.....	5 00	20 00		30 00		6 25	13 75	15 00	5 00			10 00							
Liberty.....	1 50								1 20										
Ebenezer.....	2 10	5 00	5 00			5 00		5 00				5 00							
Indian Springs.....	1 75			2 00		2 00		2 10											
Pineville.....	3 00									25 10									
New Hope.....	1 00			4 75		25						17 00							
Concord.....	2 10																		
Centennial.....	1 00			5 00					5 70										
Monterey.....	2 25			5 00		5 00		5 00				5 00							
New Providence.....	1 50			3 50						10 00									
Shackleville.....	1 25									6 20									
Flat Creek.....	75																		
Ladies Aid Society, Bethsida.....																			
Mt. Pleasant, for J. G. McCaskey.....				8 00													4 50		
Sabbath Collection.....								20 65											
Collection for J. T. Bayles.....																			
Totals.....	\$42 35	35 00	74 60	104 65	440 43	75 04	15 58	45 377 15		68 30	20 00	26 35	4 50	5 00					

Total amount in cash \$377 15
 " " vouchers..... 216 35=\$593 50
 We have examined the Treasurer's report, and find it correct.

JOHN E. GULLETTE, Chairman.

J. W. Purifoy, Treasurer,

1881. In account with PINE BARREN ASSOCIATION :

Sept. 19.	To three notes of Beneficiaries \$100 each.....	\$300 00	
" "	To cash for Min. Education.....	46 75	
" "	" " " Foreign Missions.....	62 60	
" "	" " " Home Missions.....	22 60	
" "	" " " State Missions.....	110 00	
" "	" " " Colportage.....	19 20	
" "	" " " Minutes.....	46 50	
" "	" " " A. A. Sims and W. A. Whittle.....	2 00	
" "	" " " Indigent Ministers.....	48 25	
1881.	Cr.		
Sept. 19.	By cash paid T. M. Bailey, for Misions and Colportage.....		\$214 40
" "	By cash paid C. C. Jones for Minutes.....		46 50
Oct. 22.	" " " A. A. Sims		1 00
" 31.	" " " W. A. Whittle.....		1 00
Dec. 26.	" " " J. T. Bayles, Indigent Minister.....		48 25
1882.			
Sept. 18.	" three notes of Beneficiaries, \$100 each.....	300 00	
		\$657 90	\$611 15
Sept. 18.	To balance cash for Min. Education.....	46 75	
" "	To three notes of Beneficiaries, \$100 each.....	300 00	
	Total.....	\$346 75	

Rev. W. G. Curry spoke in the interest of the ALABAMA BAPTIST.

Brother L. W. Duke spoke favorably of the FOREIGN MISSION JOURNAL.

On motion of A. T. Sims, the amount of cash on hand for State Missions was paid to Brother McCaskey.

On motion of John Purifoy, the clerk was directed to have printed six hundred copies of Minutes for distribution among the churches, and to retain the balance of the minute funds for his services.

On motion,

Resolved, That our thanks are tendered to the Concord church and the citizens of Buena Vista, for their hospitality and kindness during the session of this Association.

On motion, the amount of cash on hand for Colportage, was paid to Brother Armstrong.

On motion, the "form" of letter printed by Brother West, was recommended to the churches.

There being no other business, the Association adjourned to meet with the Rock West Baptist church, Wilcox county, Alabama, on Saturday (11 A. M.) before the third Saturday in September, 1883.

Joined in singing, "Children of the Heavenly King," while the parting hand was extended. United in prayer, led by Brother Skipper.

D. W. RAMSEY, Moderator.

O. J. BURSON, Clerk.

TABULAR STATEMENT FOR 1882.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICES.	Baptized.	Received by letter.	Restored.	Dismissed by letter.	Excluded.	Dead.	TOTAL.	Day of Meeting.	Sunday Sch. Teachers.	Sunday Sch. Scholars.
New Providence.										33			
Rock West.	C. P. Fountain.	T. S. Packer.	Bell's Landing.	2						55	1 & 3	3	30
Bethany.		J. E. Gullette.	Camden.							22	2 & 4	3	26
Camden.	C. P. Fountain.	J. N. Holcombe.	Camden.	6	2					81		1	
Enon.	S. Moore.	A. P. Majors.	Fatama.							13			
Bell's Landing.	J. T. Bayles.	N. S. Barnes.	Bell's Landing.	3						80			
Ackerville.	A. A. Sims.	G. W. Stuart.	Snow Hill.	3						98	1 & 3	4	20
Bethsaida.	W. G. Curry.	A. M. Lee.	Snow Hill.	3	1					3			40
Bear Creek.	A. A. Sims.	D. P. Owen.	Allenton.	3						37			3
Allenton.	W. G. Curry.	W. M. Fitzgerald.	Allenton.	6	1					126	4	9	40
Mt. Pleasant.	A. A. Sims.	J. B. Coleman.	Butler Springs.	2	3					36		2	30
Gilgal.			Monterey.	2						151	1 & 3	8	65
Fellowship.	A. T. Sims.	C. J. Knight.	Pine Apple.	1	5					80			
Friendship.	A. T. Sims.	H. E. Carter.	Simpkinsville.	20	3								
Liberty.	Jehu Holley.	A. Cunningham.											
Manningham.			Forest Home.	12	27	2	14	6	5	124	2	5	35
Ebenezer.	A. T. Sims.	S. T. Moore.	Monterey.	6	6					35		5	40
Monterey.	A. T. Sims.	T. A. Knight.	Shackleville.	5	3		1	1	1	41	4		25
Shackleville.	S. Moore.	G. W. Sancer.	Bursonville.	2	7	5	1			60	3		
Indian Springs.	S. Moore.	J. E. Fore.	New Town Academy.							9			
Flat Creek.		M. E. McCreary.	New Town Academy.	4	1		1	2		77	1		
Pineville.	B. J. Skinner.	S. D. Andrews.	Buena Vista.		4		1			43	2		
New Hope.	W. A. Locke.	T. J. Robins.	Buena Vista.		4		6	7	1	109	4	2	15
Concord.	L. W. Duke.	J. J. Finklea.											
Bethel.			Claiborne.							24	2		
Corinth.													
Centennial.	P. J. Cree.	A. J. Morris.											
				71	62	6	57	37	21	1334		42	366



